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THE APOLLO THEATER AND JAM THEATRICALS ARE PROUD TO LAUNCH THE NORTH AMERICAN TOUR OF JOHN LEGUIZAMO'S LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS

IN NEW YORK CITY FOLLOWING ITS HIT BROADWAY RUN

Written & Performed by JOHN LEGUIZAMO
Directed by TONY TACCONE

"BOISTEROUS, JOYFUL AND POLITICALLY URGENT, THERE COULDN'T BE A BETTER TIME FOR LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS. KEEPING AN ENTIRE THEATER ENRAPTURED THROUGH HIS OWN MUSINGS, IMPRESSIONS, AND LITERAL PRATFALLS, LEGUIZAMO GIVES US A SPACE TO CHEER AND CRY, TO LAUGH AND LISTEN."

- David Canfield, Entertainment Weekly

(Monday, April 1) –Following its Tony-nominated hit Broadway run seen by tens of thousands, Tony Award-winner **John Leguizamo's** one-man play **LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS** will make his debut at the lengendary Apollo Theater in New York City on June 20 and 21, launching the show's North American tour. Tickets for the New York engagement go on sale April 5. For more information, please visit apollotheater.org.

Immediately following the North American tour premiere at the Apollo Theater, *LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS* will travel across the country including engagements in Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, Philadelphia and San Antonio, among others. For more information on tickets and upcoming city engagements, please visit LatinHistoryOnTour.com.

LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS is inspired by the near total absence of Latinos from his son's American History books. John Leguizamo embarks on an outrageously funny, frenzied search to find a Latin hero for his son's school history project. From a mad recap of the Aztec empire to stories of unknown Latin patriots of the Revolutionary War and beyond, Leguizamo breaks down the 3,000 years between the Mayans and Pitbull into 110 irreverent and uncensored minutes above and beyond his unique style.

Ben Brantley of The New York Times called *LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS* a "surprisingly poignant one-man play that slyly poses sharp and timely questions of what culturally defines American identity and who, in the nationalistic age of Trump, has 'the right' to be here."

Steven Suskin of The Huffington Post concluded, "John Leguizamo is back, as smart, provocative, bracing – and wise – as ever. In this dazzling comedic-philosphic evening of laughter, his Latin lesson is a treat."

LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS concluded its successful run on Broadway on February 25, 2018. The original 16-week engagement was extended an additional three weeks on opening night, November 15, 2017. The production was the first play of the 2017-2018 season to recoup its entire capitalization.

LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS marks theatre's most prolific modern Latino playwright, John Leguizamo's sixth one-man venture onto the stage, following success on Broadway with Ghetto Klown (Outer Critics Circle Award, Drama Desk Award), Freak (Drama Desk Award), Sexaholix...A Love Story (Tony nomination) and Off-Broadway with Mambo Mouth (Obie Award) and Spic-O-Rama (Drama Desk Award). Mambo Mouth, Spic-O-Rama, Freak and Ghetto Klown all went on to be filmed for presentation on HBO.

Fresh off the celebrated and financially successful Broadway run of *Ghetto Klown*, Leguizamo began his acclaimed work on *LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS*. The play had its world premiere at Berkeley Repertory Theatre followed by its New York premiere at The Public Theater. Directed by **Tony Taccone** (*Wishful Drinking, Bridge & Tunnel*), the Tony-nominated production of *LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS* is written and performed by Leguizamo, featuring scenic design by **Rachel Hauck**, lighting design by **Alexander V. Nichols**, and original music and sound design by **Bray Poor**.

LATIN HISTORY FOR MORONS is produced by THE WOW Agency, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and The Public Theater.

B-roll footage and production photos of the Broadway cast and production are now available. Click Here to download VIDEO and PHOTOS.

For more information, please visit <u>LatinHistoryOnTour.com</u>.

About The Apollo Theater

The legendary Apollo Theater—the soul of American culture—plays a vital role in cultivating emerging artists and launching legends. Since its founding, the Apollo has served as a center of innovation and a creative catalyst for Harlem, the city of New York, and the world.

With music at its core, the Apollo's programming extends to dance, theater, spoken word, and more. This includes special programs such as the blockbuster concert Bruno Mars Live at the Apollo, the world premiere theatrical reading of Ta-Nehisi Coates's National Book Award-winning Between the World and Me, 100: The Apollo Celebrates Ella, the annual Africa Now! Festival, and the New York premiere of the opera We Shall Not Be Moved. The Apollo is a performing arts presenting organization that also produces festivals and large-scale dance and music works organized around a set of core initiatives that celebrate and extend the Apollo's legacy through a contemporary lens; global festivals including the Women of the World (WOW) Festival and Breakin' Convention; international and U.S.-based artist presentations focused on a specific theme; and Special Projects, multidisciplinary collaborations with partner organizations.

Since introducing the first Amateur Night contests in 1934, the Apollo Theater has served as a testing ground for new artists working across a variety of art forms and has ushered in the emergence of many new musical genres—including jazz, swing, bebop, R&B, gospel, blues, soul, and hip-hop. Among the countless legendary performers who launched their careers at the Apollo are H.E.R., Ella Fitzgerald, Stevie Wonder, Billie Holiday, James Brown, D'Angelo, Lauryn Hill, Dave Chappelle, Machine Gun Kelly, Miri Ben Ari, Sarah Vaughan, Gladys Knight, and Luther Vandross; and the Apollo's forward-looking artistic vision continues to build on this legacy. For more information visit apollotheater.org

About Jam Theatricals:

Jam Theatricals is a Chicago-based entertainment company under the direction of co-founder Steve Traxler that presents live entertainment across North America including Broadway, concerts, comedy and family shows. Jam Theatricals manages subscription seasons in 28 cities where they strive to bring the best of Broadway to the communities served. Current presentations include Wicked, The Book of Mormon, The Phantom of the Opera, Hamilton and many more. In addition, Jam Theatricals presents manages and operates the National Theatre in Washington D.C. one of the oldest theatre in the country first opened in 1835. Jam Theatricals has produced over 55 shows on Broadway, earning ten Tony Awards®. Currently on Broadway Jam Theatricals is represented by Waitress. Mean Girls and the Ferryman, and opening soon, Hadestown, Tootsie, and Beetlejuice.

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